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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION V
POLLUTION REPORT**

I. HEADING

DATE: January 8, 2002

SUBJECT: Conservation Chemical Site PRP Removal Action, Gary, Lake County, IN

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POLREP: POLREP #25 LAST AND FINAL

II. BACKGROUND

Site No: Y1 05Y1
Response Authority: CERCLA (PRP Removal Action)
State Notification: Feb 1999
Status: Consent Order signed on 2/4/1999

CERCLIS No: IND040888992
NPL Status: Non-NPL
Start Date: 7/5/1999
Completion Date: 11/27/01

III. INCIDENT INFORMATION

U.S. EPA Region 5 entered into an Administrative Order by Consent with the PRP Group for the Conservation Chemical Corp in Gary Indiana, Docket Number V-W-98-C-497 in February 4, 1999. The Consent Order called for completion of a removal action at the defunct Conservation Chemical Corporation located at 6500 Industrial Highway in Gary, Indiana. The Consent Order called for a removal action involving the cleaning and demolition of over 100 bulk storage tanks, sampling and disposal of over 500 above ground drums, excavation and removal of over 1,000 buried drums, abatement of 275 bags of asbestos, stabilization and neutralization of three large acid lagoons containing 15,000 cubic yards of material, excavation and disposal of 1,000 tons of contaminated soil, disposal of 68,870 gallons of acid liquid, disposal of 200 small lab containers, disposal of 250 tons of debris and non-hazardous solids from building and tank demolition, and recycling of 320 tons of cleaned and cut steel. The site was capped with clay and graded to control drainage. In November and December of 2001 the PRP Group installed a concrete culvert pipe in a storm drainage ditch on the adjacent property (Gary Chicago Airport) to prevent a floating chemical layer from reaching the Grand Calumet River. This work was authorized and approved under an Amendment to the Original Consent Order. This completes the Work to be Performed required under the Consent Order. The PRP Group will send in the final report at the end of January 2002 and after review of the report a completion letter will be sent to the PRP Group.

IV. RESPONSES INFORMATION

A. Situation

I. U.S.EPA Removal

The U.S. EPA removal of PCB-contaminated soil was completed in June of 1999. This phase of the CCCI removal was funded by proceeds of the 1996 de minimus settlement and the removal was authorized by the April 1998 Action Memorandum. Upon demolition of Tank #22 by the PRP Group in August of 1999, the PRP group discovered a heavy tar like sludge which had been released from the bottom of the steel tank. The material has been sampled for PCBs and found to contain low levels (less than 15 ppm). The tar and surrounding soil was removed and disposed of by the U.S. EPA contractor. See POLREPs 1-7 for more information on the U.S. EPA removal action.

2. PRP Removal activities November 12, 2001 to November 27, 2001

(Refer to POLREPS 1A-24A for previous actions)

- On 11/12/01, KPR and Reith Riley mobilized equipment and materials to the Gary Airport.
- On 11/13/01, Reith Riley installed the first two earthen dams and began de-watering the ditch. After de-watering the first portion of the ditch, Reith Riley began excavating organic material from the bottom of the south end of the ditch and using sand to form a base for the concrete pipe. At the end of the day it was decided that work would continue the next day at the north end of the ditch, moving from up stream to downstream.
- On 11/14/01, Reith Riley built an earthen dam at the north end of the ditch. Excavation of the ditch continued moving down stream. After removing a section of organic material, Reith Riley would again use sand to form a base for the culvert. During excavation activities, Reith Riley removed approximately 20 yd³ of material stained with free product, and stockpiled it for later disposal by the U.S. EPA. EQ placed new booms downstream to collect any product that may escape downstream due to excavation activities.
- On 11/15/01, formation of base for culvert with sand continued. START noticed a sheen in the ditch downstream. START and KPR installed a third boom and re-enforced the existing booms to make sure any sheen in the water was captured.
- On 11/16/01, START and KPR noticed sheen in ditch downstream of the booms. After discussing with EQ and airport engineer, it was agreed that sheen was probably organic and coming of vegetative material in the ditch, and not from excavation activities. Reith Riley completed forming the base for the culvert up to the south discharge point. Reith Riley began laying first section of culvert pipe moving from south point upstream, and installed the first bentonite check and monitoring well. Bentonite checks to be installed along the culvert to catch any free product that may seep through the ground up against the pipe. Reith Riley completed approximately 150 ft. of pipe.
- On 11/17/01, Reith Riley continued installing concrete pipe, moving upstream. Second bentonite check and monitoring well point installed. Reith Riley completed installation of concrete pipe up to access road crossing the ditch.
- On 11/19/01, Reith Riley began backfilling the portion of the ditch where the concrete pipe had already been installed.
- On 11/20/01, Reith Riley excavated access road crossing ditch. Removed old metal culvert under road and approximately 20 yd³ of stained material and stockpiled it with material later to be removed by EPA. Reith Riley continued to install concrete pipe and installed third bentonite check and monitoring well point. Reith Riley installed and cemented manhole for maintenance access.
- On 11/21/01, Reith Riley backfilled up to manhole. Continued laying concrete pipe moving upstream. Reith Riley installed the 4th and 5th bentonite checks and monitoring well points. Reith Riley installed another manhole for maintenance access.
- On 11/26/01, Reith Riley continued installing concrete culvert. Approximately 275 ft. of pipe completed. Reith Riley also completed installation of the 6th bentonite check and monitoring point
- On 11/27/01, Reith Riley completed installation of concrete pipe and installed the final manhole. Reith Riley backfilled the remaining portion of the ditch containing the concrete culvert.
- Graded area was seeded and tilled in for erosion control
- U.S. EPA will dispose of the 40 cubic yards of oil contaminated sediment that was excavated and stored on the concrete pad at the Gary Chicago Airport Authority. Disposal is planned for February 2002.

B. Planned Removal Action

- PRP Group to submit final report (January 31)
- U.S. EPA to send completion letter after approval of final report

C. Key Issues

- The Gary Chicago Airport Authority has take title to the Conservation Chemical Property . The property is expected to be utilized in the planned runway expansion. U.S. EPA will continue to work with the Airport Authority to provide for a transition into the runway expansion.
- The former CCCI property will be utilized to collect the estimated 250,000 gallons of floating product which has been identified beneath the property. U.S. EPA will design and install seven 10inch diameter recovery wells and expand the current treatment plant to accommodate the expanded volume of water and recovered oil. This work is scheduled for Feb-May of 2002. The Oil Pollution Act trust fund will be utilized to conduct this work. The collection and treatment of oil and water is expected to continue for 5-10 years. The treated water will be discharged on to the former CCCI property into a recharge gallery. U.S. EPA will continue to access the treatment plant via the airport property and will ask the Airport Authority to sign an access agreement to conduct the installation of the recovery wells, associated piping and construction of the recharge gallery.

<p align="center">Table 1 U.S.EPA/PRP REMOVAL ACTION Conservation Chemical Site Disposal Information</p>					
Waste Streams	Date	Medium	Quantity	Treatment	Disposal Facility
Hazardous Liquid	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Liquid	65,870 gallons	Disposal	Clean Harbor Chicago, IL
Hazardous Liquid	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Liquid	Fifty two 55 gallon drums	Disposal	Clean Harbor Chicago, IL
Hazardous Sludge	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Sludge	Thirty 55 gallon drums	Disposal	Clean Harbor Chicago, IL
Miscellaneous Hazardous Liquids and solids	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Various Liquids and Solids	12 lbs., three 55 gallon drums, 3 cubic yards, 22 three gallon pails	Disposal	Clean Harbor Chicago, IL
Non-Hazardous Liquid	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Non-Hazardous Liquid	1,255 gallons	Disposal	Clean Harbor Chicago, IL
Non-Hazardous Liquid	8/9/99 - 3/6/00	Non-Hazardous Liquid	22 30-gallon pails	Disposal	Clean Harbors Chicago ,IL
Hazardous Solids	10/21/99- 11/9/99	Debris	52 cubic yards	Disposal	CID Landfill
Non-Hazardous Solids	9/7/99 - 9/16/99	Debris	120 cubic yards	Disposal	CID Landfill
Non-Hazardous Solid	7/20/99 - 5/2/00	Debris	65.1 tons	Disposal	CID Landfill
Non- Hazardous Solids	7/7/99 - 9/7/99	Debris	200.5 tons	Disposal	Newton County Landfill
Special Waste	9/14/99	Asbestos	275 bags	Disposal	Newton County Landfill
Hazardous Solids	9/14/99 - 5/23/00	Solids/ Debris	767 tons	Disposal	EQ Belleville, MI
Steel Debris	7/22/99 - 7/23/99	Steel Debris	314.26 tons	Recycle	Bethlehem Steel
Hazardous Liquid	9/1/99	Flammable Liquids	41 - 1 quart bottles	Fuels Blending	Pollution Control Industries